

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated in Appendix A submitted herewith according to the July 30, 2003, revision to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 concerning a manner for making claim amendments.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 11, 17, 24, 31-33, 38, 40-41 and 43 are presently pending in the captioned application with claim 1 being currently amended.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that magnesium is not present in the pending claims. Claim 1 has now been amended to recite that the divalent group M^2 of the general formula (1) is magnesium. Support for the amendment can be found in the specification at page 4, line 4. No new matter within the meaning of § 132 has been added by the amendment.

Applicants also enter into the record a § 1.132 Declaration ("Minagawa Declaration") by one of the inventors Madoka Minagawa demonstrating an unexpected difference between the composite metal polybasic salt of the present invention from the compounds disclosed by the cited art. In particular, the Minagawa